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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/379,837	08/24/1999	TAKASHI IGARASHI	KON-1523	1789

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HUY THANH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2615

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/379,837

Applicant(s)

IGARASHI, TAKASHI

Examiner

HUY T NGUYEN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 23 is objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 23, line 2 and 11, there is antecedent basis for "the second controller" and "the first controller".
Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-8 and 15-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Satoh (5,717,496).

Regarding claim 1, Satoh discloses an image recording system (Fig. 1, column 10) comprising:

(a) an image recording device (30B)(receiving side) for recording an image based on image information ;

(b) a first controller (15,12) for controlling the image recording device;

(c) a second controller (transmission side 30A); and

(d) a memory (30A) which is controlled by the second controller and on which image information is stored,

wherein the first controller can send a reading command signal to the second controller for reading the image information, the second controller reads the image information out of the memory based on the reading command signal, and transmits the image information to the first controller, and the first controller receives the image information transmitted from the second controller, and controls the image recording device so that an image based on the image information is recorded (Figs.7,8, 17,19, column 12, line 55 to column 13, line 45, columns 19 and 20).

Regarding claim 2, Satoh teaches the second controller is connected to the first controller through a communication network, the first controller can transmit to the second controller the reading command signal for reading the image information through the communication network, and the second controller reads the image information out of the memory based on the reading command signal, and transmits the image information to the first controller through the communication network (Fig. 1, columns 19-20).

Regarding claim 3, Satoh teaches the first controller receives the image information sent from the second controller, and makes the image recording device to operate (column 19 and 20).

Regarding claim 4, Satoh further teaches the first controller sends the reading command signal to the second controller at a prescribed interval (Figs. 7,8).

Regarding claim 5, Satoh further teaches first controller sends completion information which indicates that image recording of the image information has been completed to the second controller, after completion of the image recording of the image information, and the second controller generates information indicating that image recording of the image information has been completed based on the completion information (Figs. 7,8) .

Regarding claim 6, Satoh further teaches that the completion information is identification information corresponding to the image information (Fig. 33)

Regarding claim 7, Satoh further teaches the first controller sends first completion information which indicates that image recording of the image information has been completed to the second controller, after completion of the image recording of the image information, and the second controller adds second completion information indicating completion of image recording to the image information based on the first completion information (Fig. 33)

Regarding claim 8, Satoh further teaches that the first completion information is identification information corresponding to the image information (Fig. 33).

Method claims 15-22 correspond to apparatus claims 1-8. Therefore, method claims 15-22 are rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claims 1-8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 9-14 and 23-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al (5,717,496) in view of Ota (6,201,571).

Regarding claim 9, Satoh discloses an image recording system comprising:

(a) an image recording device for recording an image based on image information (Figs. 1, 7,8,17 ,19, column12 lines 55 to column 13,line 45, columns 19-20)

(b) a first controller (30B) for controlling the image recording device;

(c) a second controller (30A) ; and

(d) a memory (30A) which is controlled by the second controller and on which image information is stored,

wherein the second controller includes a means for adding the date information for image recording for each image information stored in the memory, (column 32, lines 25-30) reads image information to which the date information is added, out of the memory, and transmits the image information to the first controller, and the first controller receives the image information to which the priority order information is added transmitted from the second controller, and controls the image recording device so that an image based on the image information is recorded , Figs. 7,8, columns 19-20).

Satoh fails to specifically teach that the images are added with priority order . Ota teaches a recording apparatus for recording images added with priority order (order of date information)(column 10, lines 18-25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Satoh with Ota (6,201,571) by using a control

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means as taught by Ota with the apparatus of Satoh for storing the images with priority order by using date information order thereby enhancing capability of the apparatus of Satoh for easily retrieving the stored images .

Regarding claim 10, Satoh teaches that the second controller is connected to the first controller through a communication network, and the second controller transmits the image information to the first controller through the communication network (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 11, Satoh teaches that the first controller sends completion information which indicates that image recording of the image information has been completed to the second controller, after completion of the image recording of the image information, and the second controller generates information indicating that image recording of the image information has been completed based on the completion information See Satoh Figs. 7,8).

Regarding claim 12, Satoh further teaches the information of the completion is identification information corresponding to the image information(Fig. 33).

Regarding claim 13, Satoh further teaches the first controller sends first completion information which indicates that image recording of the image information has been completed to the second controller, after completion of the image recording of the image information, and the second controller adds second completion information indicating completion of image recording to the image information based on the first completion information (Fig. 33).

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Regarding claim 14, Satoh further teaches the first completion information is identification information corresponding to the image information (Fig. 33) .

Method claims 23-28 correspond to apparatus claims 9-14 . Therefore method claims 24-28 are rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claims 9-14.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 305-4775. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on (703) 308-9644. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to 2600 TECH CENTER customer service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.


HUY T NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

H.N
August 7, 2003